Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 070029 ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 DODE-00 /063 R

DRAFTED BY PM/DCA: MARIETTI APPROVED BY PM ACDA -- J. TWOMBLY EA/ANP -- T. WAJDA

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R 150312Z MAR 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 070029

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, XO

SUBJECT: US-AUSTRALIAN CONSULTATIONS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN

- 1. ON MARCH 10, AMBASSADOR RENOUF INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE AUSTRALIANS ACCEPT US INVITATION TO CONSULT ON THE LAND-BASED STRIKE AIRCRAFT ISSUE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN TALKS. HE ASKED IF THE US COULD PROVIDE AN AGENDA SO THAT THE AUSTRALIAN SIDE COULD BETTER PREPARE FOR THE TALKS. HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON CANBERRA'S PREFERENCES ON TIMING, LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION, ETC.
- 2. ON MARCH 16, THE DEPARTMENT PASSED THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTED AGENDA TO THE AUSTRALIANS:
- I. US SECURITY POLICY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND PACIFIC (US LEAD)
- .II. RELATIONSHIP OF AN INDIAN OCEAN AGREEMENT TO THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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POLICY (US LEAD)

- III. DESCRIPTION OF AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTERESTS AND CONCERNS (AUSTRALIAN LEAD)
- IV. EXPLANATION OF THE LAND-BASED STRIKE AIRCRAFT PROBLEM (US LEAD)

- V. DISCUSSION OF CRITERIA TO BE USED IN EVALUATING OPTIONS
- VI. DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVES:
 - 1. OPTIONS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY THE UNITED STATES
 - 2. NEW OPTIONS
- 3. CONCERNING TIMING, WE STATED THAT EITHER APRIL 11, 12, OR 13 WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR THE US. IN THE US VIEW, THE CONSULTATIONS MIGHT TAKE ONE TO ONE AND A HALF DAYS WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENSION IF REQUIRED. THE US INVITED AUSTRALIAN REACTIONS TO BOTH THE AGENDA AND SUGGESTED TIMING OF THE TALKS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Subject: US-AUSTRALIAN CONSULTATIONS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN

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